# Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan

**Program:** Law  
**Degree:** J.D.  
**Date submitted:** May 1, 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Performance Indicators</th>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Use of the Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Communicate with clients, decision-makers, and the range of other stakeholders in the legal system in a manner expected of a new lawyer. | • Demonstrated ability to draft and edit legal memoranda, briefs, and other documents.  
• Demonstrated effective oral communication skills.  
• Employ appropriate methods of communication to the different stakeholders in the legal system. | **WRITTEN**  
• All 1Ls complete Legal Writing & Research 1 & Legal Writing & Research 2, in which they undertake substantial writing and receive intensive feedback.  
• All post-1Ls complete a seminar experience, in which they undertake additional writing and receive additional feedback.  
• All post-1Ls complete a perspectives experience, in which they undertake additional writing.  
• Many post-1Ls undertake moot court, law journal, and clinical experiences, in which they engage in a variety of substantial writing projects. | • The LWR instructors meet at the conclusion of each semester to discuss the quality of written work received and ways in which the delivery of written communication skills can be improved. Annually the LWR instructors meet with the associate dean for academic affairs to assess the extent to which the LWR program effectively fosters the development of skills of written communication.  
• The associate dean for academic affairs gathers information from workshop and seminar instructors regarding the extent to which these experiences effectively foster the development of communication skills.  
• The director of clinical education annually gathers information regarding the extent to which clinics, field placements, and internships effectively foster the development of communication skills and ways in which clinical offerings can be employed to enhance the achievement of this objective.  
• The associate dean for academic affairs annually meets with the moot court instructors to assess the extent to which the moot court program effectively fosters the development of communication skills. |
| | | **ORAL**  
• All post-1Ls complete a workshop requirement, in which they engage in substantial oral communication and receive feedback.  
• All post-1Ls complete a seminar experience, in which they enhance their skills of oral communication.  
• Many post-1Ls undertake moot court, in which they refine a range of oral communication skills.  
• Many post-1Ls participate in a host of clinical programs, in which they deepen their skills of oral communication. | | |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Performance Indicators</th>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Use of the Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Students will be able to: | **METHODS OF COMMUNICATION APPROPRIATE TO DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS**  
• All 1Ls complete LWR1 & LWR2, in which they learn to address written communication to a range of different audiences in the legal system.  
• All post-1Ls complete The Law Governing Lawyers, in which they learn to address prospective clients, clients, adversary lawyers, judges, and a host of other players in the legal system.  
• All post-1Ls complete a workshop, enabling them to refine their ability to communicate effectively with different stakeholders.  
• Many post-1Ls participate in the clinical program, enabling them to deepen their understanding of ways to communicate effectively with different stakeholders.  

Demonstrate knowledge of core areas of legal doctrine and the processes through which law is created, developed, and changed and legal rights and duties are enforced, adjudicated, and ascertained in a manner expected of a new lawyer.  

• Demonstrated ability to identify and apply core concepts in areas of Contracts, Torts, Property, Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Trusts & Estates, Evidence, and The Law Governing Lawyers and the manner in which these core concepts have developed over time.  
• Demonstrated ability to identify and employ the processes through which legal disputes are resolved and legal rights and duties are established and enforced.  
• Demonstrated ability to identify core concepts in areas beyond those specifically mandated by the Law |
| All students complete the required curriculum, through which they demonstrate knowledge of core areas of legal doctrine and processes.  
All students complete Civil Procedure and a course that satisfies the post-1L Process requirement, through which they demonstrate knowledge of the processes through which law is created, developed, and changed.  
All students satisfy the requirements of Wisconsin SCR 40:03(a) and (b), through which they demonstrate competence in |
| • Faculty annually review and revise syllabi, reading materials, assignments, and other pedagogic and evaluative tools to ensure that students are able to identify and apply core concepts in areas required for receipt of the J.D.  
The Curriculum Committee periodically reviews the required curriculum to ensure that the curriculum facilitates the achievement of this objective.  
Twice a year the associate dean for academic affairs distributes information relating to grade distribution in Law School courses. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Performance Indicators</th>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Use of the Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Students will be able to: | School. | areas of law deemed necessary for an entry-level lawyer to receive a license to practice law from the Wisconsin Supreme Court. | • Three times a year the Wisconsin Supreme Court gives licenses to practice law to the Law School’s graduates.  
• As a result of information obtained, the Law School will be better positioned to monitor its compliance with accreditation standards promulgated by the ABA.  
• Periodically the coordinators of the Strategic Planning process identify ways in which the Strategic Planning process can be employed to enhance the achievement of this objective. |
| Employ strategies for identifying, analyzing, researching, and solving legal problems in a manner expected of a new lawyer. | • Demonstrated ability to conduct legal research.  
• Demonstrated ability to identify legal problems as they arise in a variety of factual contexts.  
• Demonstrated ability to generate solutions to legal problems as they arise in a variety of factual contexts. | • All students complete Legal Writing & Research 1, Legal Writing & Research 2, and an Advanced Legal Research course.  
• All students complete a workshop experience, in which they refine and apply a variety of skills and thereby learn to identify, analyze, and solve client problems.  
• Many post-1Ls participate in the clinical program, enabling them to deepen their understanding of ways to identify, analyze, and solve legal problems. | • The ALR instructors meet annually with the associate dean for academic affairs to discuss the quality of research received and the ways in which the delivery of research skills can be improved.  
• The Curriculum Committee periodically gathers information regarding the extent to which the curriculum facilitates the achievement of this objective.  
• The director of clinical education annually gathers information regarding the extent to which clinics, field placements, and internships contribute to the achievement of this objective and ways through which the clinical program can enhance the achievement of this objective.  
• Twice a year the associate dean for academic affairs distributes data regarding grades.  
• Three times a year the Wisconsin Supreme Court gives licenses to
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcomes Students will be able to:</th>
<th>Performance Indicators</th>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Use of the Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Employ strategies for organizing and managing professional time, working cooperatively with others, and meeting professional deadlines in a manner expected of a new lawyer. | • Demonstrated ability to organize and manage professional time and meet professional deadlines.  
• Demonstrated ability to work cooperatively with others in a professional setting. | • All students complete Legal Writing & Research 1 & 2, through which they become inculcated with the habits of timely completion of professional work.  
• All students complete The Law Governing Lawyers, through which they learn the importance of managing professional time effectively, strategies through which they can maximize the prospects of doing so, and the deleterious consequences that befall lawyers, and the clients of lawyers, who fail to do so.  
• All students complete a workshop, through which they learn to work cooperatively with others in pursuit of a common professional goal.  
• Many students complete Appellate Writing & Advocacy and participate in the moot court program, through which they learn to work cooperatively with others in pursuit of a common professional goal.  
• Many students participate as editors or members of the Law School’s | • As a result of information obtained annually from workshop instructors, the associate dean for academic affairs will monitor the extent to which the workshop requirement contributes to the achievement of this objective.  
• The Law Governing Lawyers instructors meet annually to discuss the extent to which the course facilitates the achievement of this objective and ways in which delivery of the course can enhance the achievement of the objective.  
• As a result of information obtained, the Law School will be better positioned to monitor its compliance with accreditation standards promulgated by the ABA.  
• Periodically the coordinators of the Strategic Planning process identify ways in which the Strategic Planning process can be employed to enhance the achievement of this objective. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Performance Indicators</th>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Use of the Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will be able to:</td>
<td>law journals, through which they learn to work cooperatively with others in pursuit of a common goal.</td>
<td>All students complete 1L Orientation, which introduces students to the fundamental values of the American legal profession.</td>
<td>As a result of information obtained each year following 1L Orientation, administrators responsible for the organization of Orientation will identify the extent to which the program contributed to the achievement of this objective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental values of the American legal profession, among them the delivery of competent representation, the exercise of high ethical standards, the promotion of justice, the respect for the rights and responsibilities of others, the improvement of the profession, and the centrality of professional self-development.</td>
<td>Demonstrated ability to identify the fundamental values of the American legal profession. Demonstrated ability to identify and analyze ethical issues as they arise in a variety of professional contexts.</td>
<td>All students complete The Law Governing Lawyers, through which they deepen their understanding of the fundamental values of the profession and learn strategies for ensuring that their professional performance comports with these values. All students complete the required curriculum and satisfy Wisconsin Supreme Court Rules that govern admission to practice via diploma privilege, ensuring that they have become inculcated with an understanding of these values.</td>
<td>Each year faculty members who teach The Law Governing Lawyers will review their syllabi to ensure that the course contributes to the achievement of this objective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Office of Career Planning, the Speakers From Practice Committee, and a variety of student organizations conduct programs throughout the year that facilitate an understanding of these values.</td>
<td>Each year all faculty will review their syllabi to ensure that their courses contribute to the achievement of this objective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Many students pursue clinical, supervised field placement, and internship opportunities, through which they deepen their understanding of these values in a variety of professional contexts.</td>
<td>Each year the director of clinical education will review the delivery of the Law School’s clinical program to ensure that it contributes to the achievement of this objective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program,</td>
<td>Periodically the coordinators of the Strategic Planning process identify ways in which the Strategic Planning process can be employed to enhance the achievement of this objective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>As a result of information obtained, the Law School will be better positioned to monitor its compliance with accreditation standards promulgated by the ABA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>As a result of information obtained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Learning Outcomes</td>
<td>Performance Indicators</td>
<td>Measures</td>
<td>Use of the Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students will be able to:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>each year by the public service administrator, the Law School will identify the extent to which the work of that office contributed to the achievement of this objective and ways through which the work of the office can further enhance the achievement of this objective.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Embrace a professional life that advances the Jesuit mission of service to the poor, marginalized, and underrepresented in society. | ● Demonstrated exposure to the legal and other needs of the poor, marginalized, and underrepresented in society.  
● Demonstrated exposure to ways in which lawyers can, and should, address those needs. | ● All students complete 1L Orientation, through which they gain exposure to the Jesuit mission in various ways, including the Dean’s welcome, the Posner Pro Bono Lecture, and information disseminated at the Student Organization Fair.  
● The public service administrator coordinates opportunities for students to advance the Jesuit mission.  
● Materials students confront in The Law Governing Lawyers course enable them to advance these values throughout their professional careers.  
● Specific clinics (e.g. Mediation Clinic, Public Defender Clinic, Unemployment Compensation Clinic, and Volunteer Legal Clinic), supervised field placements (e.g., AIDS Resource Center, Catholic Charities Immigration Assistance, Centro Legal, Federal Defender, Legal Action of Wisconsin, Legal Aid Society, and Marquette Restorative Justice Initiative), courses (e.g., Guardian Ad Litem workshop and Civil Legal Services to the Poor), organizations (e.g., Pro Bono Society and Public Interest Law Society), programs (e.g., Volunteer Income Tax | ● As a result of information obtained each year following 1L Orientation, the administrators responsible for the organization of Orientation will identify the extent to which the program contributed to the achievement of this objective and ways through which Orientation can further enhance the achievement of this objective.  
● As a result of information obtained each year by the Public Service Administrator, the Law School will identify the extent to which the work of that office contributed to the achievement of this objective and ways through which the work of the office can further enhance the achievement of this objective.  
● The director of clinical education annually gathers information regarding the extent to which clinical offerings contribute to the achievement of this objective and ways through which clinical offerings can further enhance the achievement of the objective.  
● Periodically the coordinators of the Strategic Planning process identify ways in which the Strategic Planning process can be employed to enhance the achievement of this objective. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcomes Students will be able to:</th>
<th>Performance Indicators</th>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Use of the Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistance), and other opportunities (e.g., Street Law) awaken this commitment in students and thereby facilitate the achievement of this objective.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>